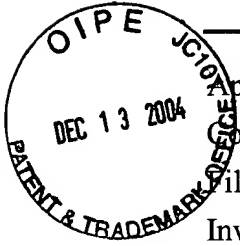


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Application No.: 09/459,260
Confirmation No.: 9934
Filing Date: December 10, 1999
Inventors: Margoscin et al.
Title:

MIDDLEWARE FOR
BUSINESS
TRANSACTIONS

§ Examiner: Patel, Jagdish
§ Art Unit: 3624
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5053-30700
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<p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8</p> <p>DATE OF DEPOSIT: <i>December 8, 2004</i></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on the date indicated above and is addressed to:</p> <p>Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</p> <p><i>B. Gail Ballard</i> B. Gail Ballard</p>

**AMENDMENT; REMARKS SUBMITTED WITH
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9.